

*BT*  
opening within said outer surface of said muzzle brake, said first elongated opening having a longitudinal dimension and a lateral dimension, said longitudinal dimension greater than said lateral dimension, said first elongated opening connecting said central bore to said outer surface.

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

*Sub C1*  
13. (Twice Amended) A muzzle brake for use with a firearm having a muzzle, said muzzle brake for reducing recoil while discharging said firearm, said muzzle brake comprising:

a cylinder having a first end adapted for attachment to a firearm, an outer surface extending from said first end to a second end along a longitudinal axis, a central bore, a plurality of elongated first openings defined within said outer surface nearest said first end as compared to any other opening defined within said outer surface of said muzzle brake, said elongated first openings positioned circumvolving along said outer surface near said first end, said first openings configured to have a longitudinal dimension and a lateral dimension said longitudinal dimension being greater than said lateral dimension, said first openings further configured to extend from said central bore to said outer surface;

and a plurality of radial gas holes, said radial gas holes located proximate to said first openings and distal from said first end, said first end configured for attachment to the muzzle of a firearm; said central bore having a desired diameter and extending through the cylinder along said longitudinal axis; said radial gas holes linearly disposed along the longitudinal axis of the cylinder, each gas hole having a perimeter and a diameter smaller than said central bore, and extending radially from said central bore to said outer surface.